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U.S. Department of Energy awards Utah \$638,000 in two competitive grants

SALT LAKE CITY (Oct. 16, 2018) — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has selected Utah as the recipient of two competitive grants totalling \$638,786. The funding from DOE's State Energy Program will support the critical work of the Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) in advancing energy efficiency, resilience and affordability across the state and western region.

"Utah continues to demonstrate local, regional and national leadership in providing strategic energy policy, planning and development to drive new solutions to market," said Laura Nelson, the Governor's energy advisor and executive director of OED. "We are proud to be awarded our largest SEP funding to date to realize wise outcomes for the way we utilize energy, which is key to our thriving economy and high quality of life."

OED's award for its energy planning proposal, "Exploring Western Regional Transmission Organizations," garnered \$539,234 for support in creating a multi-state partnership to address the evolving regional markets in the West. The funding will allow OED to work with energy offices in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and other western states to effectively explore regional approaches that can enhance grid resilience, promote reliability, and lead to a more efficient energy system in the West, with consideration for impacts and benefits for individuals states and their power customers. The final deliverable will be a strategic roadmap to be released within two years.

At \$99,552, OED's "Energy Wise Communities" award will allow OED to work with local communities to design a tailored-made energy efficiency and resiliency plan for long term savings and associated job creation, including for low and moderate-income housing. Ogden City is set to be Utah's first Energy Wise Community, with the goal of serving as a model for



broad replication in OED's support to rural and urban communities. The outcomes could additionally serve as a template for best practices for communities across the nation.

To learn more about OED's State Energy Program successes in the past, [click here](#).

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About Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED)

Web: energy.utah.gov

Governor Gary R. Herbert recognizes energy as one of the four cornerstones of Utah's strength, along with education, job creation, and self-determination. In recognition of this priority, the Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in 2011 to advance Utah's diverse energy sector through planning, policy and direct engagement with the private sector; and thereby to foster economic growth through energy development and conservation activities and through the provision of affordable, reliable energy.